

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /116 W  
----- 033459

R 101735Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4272  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMCONSUL TRIESTE  
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 5088

GENEVA FOR CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, IT, YO  
SUBJECT: ZONE B DISPUTE

REF: STATE 70749

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROVAL CONTAINED IN REFTEL  
DCM SPOKE WITH AMBASSADOR DUCCI, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR  
POLITICAL AFFAIRS AT MFA. DUCCI SAID THAT THE ITALIANS HAVE  
PREPARED A RESPONSE TO THE YUGOSLAV NOTE OF MARCH 30. HE  
SAID THAT THE MATTER WAS OF SUCH SIGNIFICANCE THAT THE NOTE  
WOULD BE REVIEWED BY THE CABINET AT A MEETING PROBABLY ON  
APRIL 11. THE YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR HAS LEFT TOWN RATHER UN-  
EXPECTEDLY BUT DUCCI SAID HE HAS NOT BEEN WITHDRAW. DCM RE-  
ITERATED US POSITION BASED ON OCTOBER 5, 1954 STATEMENT AND  
EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE ITALIANS WOULD CONTINUE TO DEAL WITH  
THIS MATTER IN A COOL STATESMANLIKE WAY. DUCCI SAID HE  
APPRECIATE OUT POSITION AND PARTICULARLY THE FACT THAT WE  
RECOGNIZED THAT THE ITALIANS HAVE HANDLED THIS MATTER IN A  
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COOL WAY. (IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH PRIME MINISTER

RUMOR WE GOT THE STRONG IMPRESSION THAT THE GOI WILL TAKE PAINS TO AVOID ESCALATING THE TEMPERATURE IN THIS AFFAIR.

2. DUCCI ADMITS THAT THE EARLY FORMULATION OF THE ITALIAN POSITION COULD HAVE BEEN MORE FELICITOUS BUT THAT HE IS CONVINCED THAT THE YUGOSLAVS HAD PREPARED THEIR POSITIONS IN ADVANCE AND WELCOMED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THIS EXHIBIT OF NATIONALISTIC FEELING.

3. IN LOOKING TO THE FUTURE DUCCI HAS SAID THAT THE ITALIANS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN READY TO NEGOTIATE ABOUT A SETTLEMENT BUT THAT PREVIOUS ITALIAN GOVERNMENTS NEVER HAD TO MAKE THE FINAL DECISION TO GRANT DE JURE RECOGNITION IN EXCHANGE FOR OTHER FRONTIER RECTIFICATIONS BECAUSE OF YUGOSLAV INTRANSIGENCE. DUCCI BELIEVES THAT GOI IS MOVING IN THE DIRECTION OF A SETTLEMENT BUT OBVIOUSLY NOTHING THAT SERIOUS CAN BE DECIDED BEFORE THE DIVORCE REFERENDUM ON MAY 12.

4. DUCCI COMMENTED THAT THE YUGOSLAV ACTION HAS EM-BARRASSED THE SOVIETS AND THE ITALIAN COMMUNISTS. HE BELIEVES THAT YUGOSLAV "SORTIE" AT GENEVA DID NOT IMPROVE THEIR POSITION. IN ANY CASE HE NOTED A COMPROMISE HAS ALREADY BEEN REACHED ON THE PROBLEM OF THE INVIOABILITY OF FRONTIERS. HE WONDERS IF THE YUGOSLAVS MAY TRY TO RAISE THE ISSUE AT THE UN BY APPEALING TO THE NON-ALIGNED TO SUPPORT THEM SINCE THEY ARE BEING "ATTACKED" BY AN INDUSTRIAL STATE. DUCCI DID NOT SEEM PARTICULARLY WORRIED BY THIS PROSPECT. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

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